



Alpena County News

Alpena County USDA Service Center

Alpena-Alcona- Montmorency County FSA

1900 W. M-32
Alpena, MI 49707
989-356-3596 (phone)
989-356-2401 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

John Herrick, Chairperson
Michael Timm, Vice-Chair
Amy Lewis, Member
Janice Emerick, Member
Edward McKinnon,
Member

County Committee meets
the third Wednesday of
the month as scheduled

County Executive Director

Paul J. Anstead

Farm Loan Manager

Mack Francoeur

Program Technicians

Michelle Katona - FP
Janet Marwede - FP
Desiree Compeau - FLP



DCP & ACRE Signup Extended

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program has been extended until August 14, 2009. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications. Signup in the ACRE option is also available through August 14, 2009. Remember, you can sign up for DCP now and still be eligible to change to the ACRE program. FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA will issue advance direct payments later this month if requested. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

ACRE Signup is Ongoing

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) is a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill. **The ACRE program signup began April 27, 2009, and runs through August 14, 2009.** The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

Producers who elect the ACRE program for a farm agree to:

- forgo counter-cyclical payments;
- accept a 20-percent reduction of the direct payments; and
- accept a 30-percent reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on the farm.

Commodities eligible for ACRE payments are wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, peanuts, soybeans, sunflower seed, canola, flaxseed, safflower, mustard seed, rapeseed, sesame seed, crambe, dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas and large chickpeas.

The ACRE program was created to give producers an option in lieu of traditional counter-cyclical payments. Producers may elect and enroll in ACRE for the 2009 crop year even if they have already accepted advance direct payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

To elect ACRE for a farm, producers must complete Form CCC-509 ACRE, which irrevocably elects ACRE for the farm through crop year 2012. Form CCC-509, the contract to participate in ACRE, must then be completed each year the producer intends to participate and receive benefits. The best way to determine if your farm will benefit from the ACRE program is to search on-line using the words "ACRE calculator 2008".

ACRE payment is based on the revenue lost on the BASE crop actually planted and designated per FSA Farm number. Your five year yield history of this planted crop will have to be established per FSA farm number. For additional information visit: www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp

Alpena County FSA Office
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Crop Reporting

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Acreage Crop Revenue Election (ACRE), Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments. Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted.

The deadline for producers to file their acreage reports has been extended to August 14, 2009.

Prevented Planting or Failed Acreage:

Prevented planting needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominations are being solicited for the Alpena-Alcona-Montmorency FSA County Committee Elections. The FSA County Committee is composed of five members, elected by producers for three year terms, to represent producers from the five

Local Administrative Areas (LAA). This year elections will be held in LAA # 2, which is composed of the townships of Alpena, Green, Long Rapids, Maple Ridge, and Wellington of Alpena County, and LAA # 4, which is composed of the townships of Alcona, Caledonia, Curtis, Hawes, Millen and Mitchell of Alcona County.

Nominations are being accepted now through August 3, 2009 for eligible candidates. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 6, 2009 and must be returned by December 7, 2009.

Dates to Remember	
August 3 rd	Last day to report farm changes/request reconstitutions
August 3 rd	Last day to submit COC nominations
August 14 th	Last day to sign up for DCP and ACRE Program
August 14 th	Last day to report crops

Visit our Web site at:
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

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